

Newsletter

REPEATER NOTES #1

OLE VIRGINIA HAMS
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

P.O. Box 1255, Manassas, VA 22110

A non-profit organization serving the interests of
Amateur Radio in the greater Manassas community

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--- NEXT MEETING ---

The next meeting of the OVH will take place on the 16th of January. The meeting will begin at 2000 local time at the Northern Virginia Electric Co-Op building on Lomond Dr.

Dues for 1984 are now past due so don't forget to bring the checkbook if you have not yet paid.

At this meeting nominees for club officers will be selected for the upcoming term. Boy time sure does go fast. I plan to run for another term unless I get voted out, HI.

--- LAST MEETING ---

At the last meeting the OVH members voted to approve the inputs of the scholarship committee which consisted of Al Picard (K4IQH), Herb Plummer (W4PJP), Jules Deschenes (WA4ERT) and myself. The agreement was that the OVH would provide one \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior chosen from one of the five local high schools. The schools would select the candidates themselves and then basically we would randomly select one of the five. It has been suggested that we randomly select at a meeting one of the five high schools ahead of time and then inform the school. This is probably the best way to do it as this way we cannot be blamed for possibly being partial, also it prevents the other four schools from doing the work of selecting a candidate only to be refused. At the meeting it was also recommended that the scholarship be given in the name of Victor Clark, exact name to be decided upon at the January meeting. I spoke with Mrs. Clark about this proposal and she was all in favor as she said Vic always wanted to promote amateur radio and help the young. Our scholarship would accomplish both in the name of someone that has done singularly more for amateur radio than possibly anyone else.

At this meeting the committee that investigated the clubs desires with regard to associate membership also gave their report. This committee consisted of Art Whittum (W1CRO), Butch Blasdel (W4HJL) and myself. The committee found that the club on the whole did not favor associate membership, so the concept was dropped. However the committee did nominate Walt Short (N4SW) and Frank Atkinson (K4CB) for honorary membership. This was voted upon and approved, congratulations Walt and Frank.

--- SILENT KEYS ---

We were all saddened recently by the passing of two OVH members. Gill Machen (K4PCT) passed away while he was hospitalized at Prince William hospital. Gill was one of the original OVH founders as well as a director of the OVH at the time of his death. Gill's well meaning smiles and pleasant character will surely be missed. Victor Clark (W4KFC) passed away from a massive heart attack at the Commonwealth Doctors Hospital on the eve of November 25. Vic was the ARRL president and an honorary member of the OVH. The January 1984 copy of QST described the man that we all loved and adored, for Vic was really the ideal ham that we should all try to be. Aside from being an ideal ham Vic was also a very warm and generous person. The entire radio fraternity feels this great loss.

--- REPEATER ---

Although it has not been in the newsletter since we did not have one last month all of you are probably aware that the new repeater and controller is up and running. I asked Tim to prepare a couple of pages on the repeater for the newsletter and you can read it shortly so I won't say any more about that. However I will say that the entire club owes Tim a BIG THANK YOU for all he has done. He has single handedly installed the new repeater after several weeks of testing and integrating at his home QTH with the unit. Also when the power amplifier developed a problem Tim managed to put together another amplifier from GE components that he had at home. He installed the loaner amp on the eve of one of the worst ice storms that we had in a long time. This is the stuff that our club is built on, dedicated and sincere members. Thanks again Tim.

--- CHRISTMAS PARADE ---

The 1983 annual Manassas Christmas parade was held on December 3. The OVH as usual was out in force. We had a beautiful day, and right towards the end of the parade the Concord flew over for a Grand Finale. The communications support crew consisted of; WD4OJZ, W4PUA, WB4HAV, WA6OYU, WA2OQT, WA4ERJ, W4PJP, K4IQH, WA4THC, W4HJL, N4BXA, KA4SCA, WD4AZG, W1CRO, WD4KLG, W4GTL, N4FS and Jeff W4NFA from Woodbridge Wireless.

REPEATER NOTES:
By Tim Wayne, KB4NR

During the past OVH meeting some features and the codes to activate these features were discussed. As stated before, the new controller on our repeater is capable of numerous dazzling things, these features will be incorporated as the membership becomes more familiar with the operation of the newfangled gadgets. For a start, the following features have been enabled and can be used presently:

1. AUTOPATCH (Access = On membership card)
Operation has been set up to be just like the old system (i.e. Enter access code + number in one continuous transmission). The notable difference is that the repeater will read the number back in voice and then dials it.
NOTE: Use "#" button to hang up (Terminate).
2. EMERGENCY AUTODIAL (Access = *)
Presently only "911" is active (i.e. dial *911). BE CERTAIN THAT IT REALLY IS AN EMERGENCY!
3. TIME OF DAY (Access = Not Required)
Dial 80, and the sexy lady will do the rest.
4. PAD TEST (Access = 5)
You can check your touch tone pad buttons by dialing the number 5 and continue with up to 32 consecutive entries. The repeater will read back, in voice, all successful entries and in the order of entry.
5. PAGING (Access = 6)
Two tone paging, or group call paging is done by dialing the number 6 and followed by the first tone group no.+ tone no.;+ second group no.+ tone no. For "GROUP CALL" only that group no.+ tone no. need be entered (preceded of course by the access).
NOTE: Refer to attached chart for assignments of group numbers and tone numbers.

GENERAL INFO: Other features will be enabled in the future and additional information will be published at that time. Please remember that you are required to ID when you access the repeater for whatever reason. If this is not done and abuse is evident, Art W1CRO, our repeater trustee, or any control operator for that matter, will be forced to disable some of these features. The AUTOPATCH will normally be enabled during control operator monitoring (usually from 6AM to 11:30PM weekdays and extended to later on fridays and Saturdays).

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Repeater Notes Cont.

As soon as the weather and time permits, some fine tuning of the audio levels and much needed antenna work will be attempted at the repeater site.

When I expounded the virtues of a commercial GE repeater that was well documented, and the ease of maintenance, the ready availability of parts and modules, I did not think it would be so soon that my very words would be so sorely tested. But it happened! As many of you know, our brand new repeater had a defective hybrid IC that caused the PA to become intermittent during cold weather. The club is presently using a loaner (PA) and the original one is going back to the factory for a replacement. It is a darn shame that it happened; however, at least we are not off the air!

The following chart can be used to determine what the group and tone numbers are for the various tone frequencies. All tone frequencies are listed in Hertz and are standard "reed" frequencies supported and used in two-tone sequential paging.

Tone no.	Group-1	Group-2	Group-3	Group-4	Group-5	Group-6
0	330.5	569.1	1092.4	321.7	553.9	1122.5
1	349.0	600.9	288.5	339.6	584.8	1153.4
2	368.5	634.5	296.5	358.6	617.4	1185.2
3	389.0	669.9	304.7	378.6	651.9	1217.8
4	410.8	707.3	313.0	399.8	688.3	1251.4
5	433.7	746.8	953.7	422.1	726.8	1285.8
6	457.9	788.5	979.9	445.7	767.4	1321.2
7	483.5	832.5	1006.9	470.5	810.2	1357.6
8	510.5	879.0	1034.7	496.8	855.5	1395.0
9	539.0	928.1	1063.2	524.6	903.2	1433.4

For example: You want to page someone who has a first tone of 707.3 Hz and a second tone of 321.7 Hz. (A and B respectively) You would dial 62440 (Access no.+ first group no.+ tone no.,+ second group no.+ tone no.)

Our new repeater has a PL (Subaudible tone) access mode capability. In the future we may need to activate this mode for various reasons. Therefore, if you wish to equip your rig with an encoder for that purpose, the PL frequency has been set to 146.2Hz.

--- FRANK, WA4GFG ---

Some of you might not know that Frank was hospitalized over the Christmas holidays. Thankfully he is back home now. Upon hearing of the situation we sent a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the OVH to let Frank know that we were all thinking of him. We just received a nice card from Frank and realizing that most of you will not get a chance to see it I decided to reprint it here in its entirety.

"Dear Old Gang--

Thank you for the lovely bouquet of flowers while I was hospitalized for several weeks over the Christmas holidays. They brought back a lot of nice memories of all of you.

I just got out of the hospital and am on a new series of medicines now. The trip there in the Rescue Squad was something I don't want to happen again - HI! HI! I thought it might be "curtains" there for a while in the C.C.U. unit.

I hear you've got a first class repeater on the air now. You deserve one, after all that work on the old 97 machine over the years. I'll soon have my Ringo Ranger up and running on top of the 50' tower that the local club put up for me just before I was cut down again. Hope to be working you soon.

73

Frank Goodell, WA4GFG"

Well thats all for now folks see you at the Richmond Frostfest and the next meeting.....